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**PATENT APPLICATION  
Q88723**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Yasuo MIZOTA

Serial No.: 10/540,552

Group Art Unit: 3617

Confirmation No.: 5361

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 2, 2005

For: TIRE STRUCTURAL MEMBER FABRICATING METHOD  
AND APPARATUS FOR CARRYING OUT THE SAME

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief, each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin  
Registration No. 36,818

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 31, 2006



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief, each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), which the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith, except for U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed subsequent to June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date; or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office Action after



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Serial No. 10/540,552

Art Unit 3617  
Q88723

filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required. Nonetheless, inasmuch as a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) **can** be made, Applicant submits the same concurrently herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within thirty days from the date (October 2, 2006) of the Supplementary European Search Report issued in connection with counterpart application EP 03 76 8162 and, therefore, a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is also attached hereto.

The identification of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (with the exception of the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin  
Registration No. 36,818

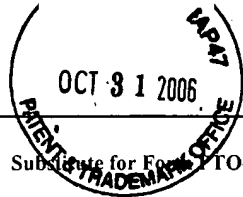
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## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/540,552
Confirmation Number	5361
Filing Date	August 2, 2005
First Named Inventor	Yasuo MIZOTA
Art Unit	3617
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q88723

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	AA	2002/046796	A1	04-25-2002	Hitotsuyanagi, <i>et al.</i>
	AB				
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				
	AI				

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						

**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
	AV		
	AW		
	AX		
	AY		
	AZ		

Examiner Signature:

Date Considered:

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language translation is attached.